F O W E Y B O R O U G H C O U N C I L

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1965

TO:-

THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE BOROUGH OF FOWEY.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough of Fowey for the year ended 31st. December, 1965.

Fowey is a well known holiday resort, boasting an equable climate, neither too hot in summer nor cold in winter. In addition to the tourist industry the port plays an important role in the export of china clay, which is the major industry in the surrounding Mid-Cornwall area. The advantage of the deep channel is that the port can handle larger ships than the adjoining ports.

Little need be said of the statistics, since with the small figures involved it would be foolish to try to draw accurate conclusions; e.g. with the small number of births one infant death can produce an infant mortality rate far higher than the material figure. The marked drop in the number of patients on the tuberculosis register gives cause for greater satisfaction.

The water supply to the town is of good quality. The sewage system scarcely merits the same commendation and it is obviously not in keeping with the picture of a tourist centre to have crude sewage discharging into the river. The disposal of sewage is probably the most important task still to be carried out in Fowey.

As usual I must express my thanks to Mr. Birkett, not only for his contribution to this Report, but to his co-operation in health matters throughout the whole of the year. In addition I must thank the Health Committee for the courtesy and attention accorded me at all times.

I remain,
Your obedient Servant,

J. McGOVERN,

Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	2,979
Population (mid year)	2,300
Number of inhabited houses	1,062
Rateable Value	£78,628
Product of Penny Rate	£310

Live Births

	Male	Female	Total	Rate/1000 Population Fowey	England & Wales
Legitimate	10	12	23	10	
Illegitimate	1	-			
Rate corrected for comparison with other areas				12.8	18.1
Illegitimate births % of total live births				4.35	7.7

Still Births ... Rate/1000 live and still births

Legitimate	1	0		
Illegimimate	0	0	41.67	15.8

Total Live and Still Births ..24

Infant Deaths

Legitimate	1	0	1		
Illegitimate	0	0			
Rate per 1000 total live births				43.5	19
" " " legitimate				45.45	
" " " illegitimate				0	

Neo-natal Deaths Rate/1000 Live Births

Under 4 weeks	1	0	1	43.5	13

Early neo-natal deaths

Under 1 week	1	0	1	43.5	
Peri-natal deaths				Rate/1000 Live and Still Births	
Still births and deaths under 1 week	2	0	2	83.3	26.9
Maternal Deaths	0	0	0	0.0	0.25
Deaths (all ages and causes)	16	12	28	Rate/1000 Population 12.17	
Corrected for comparision with other areas				8.88	11.5

The following table gives the numbers dying in age groups

Age Group	Numbers:	Males	Females
1 - 5	...	0	0
5 - 15	...	0	0
15 - 25	...	0	0
25 - 35	...	0	0
35 - 45	...	0	1
45 - 55	...	2	0
55 - 65	...	4	0
65 - 75	...	5	4
75 +	...	4	7
		15	12

Infant Mortality

The Infant death was caused by septic meningitis at 3 days old.

The following is a list of the causes of death:

		Male	Female	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	0	0	0
2.	" other	0	0	0
3.	Syphilitic disease	0	0	0
4.	Diphtheria	0	0	0
5.	Whooping cough	0	0	0
6.	Meningococcal infections	0	0	0
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	0	0	0
8.	Measles	0	0	0
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0	0
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	0	0	0
11.	" " lung, bronchus	0	0	0
12.	" " breast	0	0	0
13.	" " uterus	0	0	0
14.	Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	2	2	4
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	0	0	0
16.	Diabetes	0	0	0
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	3	4	7
18.	Coronary disease, angina	3	2	5
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	1	0	1
20.	Other heart disease	2	1	3
21.	Other circulatory diseases	1	2	3
22.	Influenza	0	0	0
23.	Pneumonia	1	0	1
24.	Bronchitis	0	0	0
25.	Other diseases of the respiratory system	0	0	0
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	0	0	0
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	0	0
28.	Nephritis, and nephrosis	1	0	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	0	0	0
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0	0
31.	Congenital malformations	0	0	0
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	0	1
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	0	0	0
34.	All other accidents	0	1	1
35.	Suicide	1	0	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0
	All causes:	16	12	28

SECTION A.

Area (2,979 acres) The district consists of the estuarine Town of Fowey, the Hamlets of Newtown, Polkerris and Polmear, and a large rural background.

Population. The Registrar General's population figure for 1965 was 2,300. The temporary Summerpopulation is estimated to add another 3,000.

SECTION B.

Public Health Officers

(a) Medical Officer of Health: J. McGOVERN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Tel. St. Austell 2206
Area Health Office,
Moorland Road, St. Austell.

(b) Public Health Inspector (part time): A.J.BIRKETT, M.R.S.H.

Laboratory Facilities

Investigations of specimens are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, The Royal Cornwall Hospital (City), Truro.

Personal Services

Fowey is covered so far as home nursing, midwifery and health visiting is concerned by a nurse/midwife/health visitor, with suitable coverage for off duty from the adjoining nursing district. Although there are no Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics in the town, the General Practitioners offer immunisations and vaccination against Diptheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough, Poliomyelitis and Smallpox for infants. Most of the school children can obtain booster doses at School through the agency of the Cornwall County Council. Supplies of prophylactics are kept at the Moorland Road Clinic, St. Austell. The ante-natal clinic which was previously held at Moorland Road, now takes place at the Maternity Unit, St. Austell.

The Home Help service is available for cases of need.

Although there are no County Council Clinics in Fowey, treatment for a variety of complaints is available at the Health Area Office, St. Austell, and a list of clinics will be appended. The clinics listed in St. Austell will include those under the agency of the Regional Hospital Board and also the Family Planning Clinics.

Hospitals

The town is fortunate in having a small Hospital within its boundaries. The new Maternity Hospital which opened in the latter part of 1964 at St. Austell has provided considerable scope for a general practitioner obstetric service having all the advantages of hospital facilities.

Clinics Held in the St. Austell Urban District.

Child Welfare	Par - The Gott Hall, Par.	2nd. & 4th. Tuesday 2p.m.-4p.m.
	Charlestown - Parish Church Hall.	4th. Wednesday 2-4p.m.
	Bethel - Methodist Church Hall.	2nd. Wednesday 2-4p.m.
	St. Austell - Moorland Road, Clinic.	1st. & 3rd. Wednesday 2-4p.m.
Ante-natal	Maternity Unit, St. Austell	Wednesday Mornings
Orthopaedic	St. Austell, Moorland Road.	Tuesday Mornings
Tuberculosis	St. Austell Hospital (Health Visitor attends)	Monday Afternoons
Dental	St. Austell, Moorland Road	Daily
Ophthalmic	St. Austell, Moorland Road	Tuesday by appointment
E.N.T.	St. Austell, Moorland Road.	By arrangement
Psychiatric	St. Austell, Moorland Road	Monday Mornings
Child Guidance	St. Austell, Moorland Road	Monday afternoons except 2nd. Monday; 2nd. & 4th. Wednesday Mornings; Thursday Afternoons
Speech Therapy	St. Austell, Moorland Road	By appointment
Family Planning	St. Austell, Moorland Road	2nd. Monday each month 2.30-4p.m.; 2nd. 3rd & 4th. Fridays 6.30-8p.m.

In addition to the above list of clinics which are mostly held in Cornwall County Council premises. The following clinics takes place weekly at the District Hospital, St. Austell.

General Medical & Surgical	- Daily
Orthopaedic	- Monday Mornings
Venereal Diseases	- Tuesdays 1 - 2 p.m.
Skin Diseases	- Thursday Mornings

SECTION C.

Water

During 1965 the water supply for all of Fowey except Polkerris village in receipt of a private supply, some properties in the Manabilly Area and one in Fowey, was from the Fowey River Supply.

This supply is good both chemically and bacteriologically. Regular weekly samples taken during the year were satisfactory.

A new Water Board covering a much wider area was formed in 1965 and due to take over the supply of water in April 1966. The new Board was named the North and Mid Cornwall Water Board.

Samples taken - 71
Satisfacotry - 71

Drainage

All outfall sewers drain directly across the beaches and discharge without treatment into the estuary. Due to beach movement certain repairs are necessary, only a minority of the outfalls being constructed on solid foundations. During the year work proceeded on the re-drainage of the Windmill area.

Disinfections - Nil

Rodent Control - No major infestations reported. All complaints have been dealt with, and sewers regularly treated.

Conveniences - Public conveniences within the Borough - 8 ladies.
- 8 gents.

SECTION D. HOUSING

New Houses

14 new houses were completed during the year and 44 houses were under construction at the end of the year.

During the year the scheme for the provision of 28 Old Persons Flatlets, Wardens Flat, and certain ancillary communal facilities, and 19 x 2 Bed Houses were in progress of erection and at the end of the year four houses were in occupation.

Repairs and Re-conditioning

2 Standard Grants and 2 Discretionary Grants were authorised during the year.

SECTION E.

Ice Cream

There are 25 retailers, but no manufacturers within the Borough.

Food Premises

62 visits of inspection were made to registered food premises. 3 complaints were received and were investigated. The co-operation of hotel and cafe owners, and shopkeepers with the Council was very satisfactory and considerable improvements to premises was effected during the year.

Condemned Foodstuffs

176 lbs. of canned and fresh meats and 65 lbs. other foodstuffs were condemned during the year as unfit for human consumption.

SECTION F

Prevalence of Notifiable Disease

Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	Male 1
Other Notifiable Diseases	Nil

The State of the Tuberculosis Register at 31st. December, 1965.

	Male	Female
Pulmonary	9	2
Non-Pulmonary	1	2

This is a drop of 6 Pulmonary & 1 Non-pulmonary compared with 31st. December, 1964.

Control of Notifiable Disease

In Fowey most infants receive their primary prophylaxis against infections disease by the family doctors, older children usually receive the necessary boosters at school.

The following table gives the number of children immunised against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus (called Trifle) and Diphtheria and Tetanus during 1965 and born in the year shown.

	1965	64	63	62	61-58	57-50	Total
Trifle Primary	1	19	1	1	1		23
Trifle Booster			1	4	18	2	25
Diph.Tet.Booster				2	21	13	36

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

Oral vaccine is freely available and its use is incouraged in all ages up to 40 years.

Tuberculosis

Control of this disease is achieved in three ways:

(a) treatment of patients, regular visiting and advice regarding the disposal of infected material.
(b) follow up of contacts, X ray examination and advice regarding necessary precautions, including vaccination of infant contacts.
(c) vaccination of school children at 11 years of age against infection by tuberculosis organisms.

(a) & (b) is usually achieved by the co-operative efforts of the Hospital, General Practitioner, and Local Authority services, (c) is carried out by the Local Authority.

In Area IV in 1965, 611 children whose parents had consented to testing were tested, and 500 received B.C.G. vaccination. Several of those not vaccinated had had previous vaccination at an earlier age and were still immune

FACTORIES ACT 1937 and 1948

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including visits made by the Public Health Inspector)

PREMISES	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices Occupiers prosecuted
1. Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	3	6	---
11. Factories not included in (1) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	10	12	---
TOTAL	13	18	---

2. Cases in which defects were found. NIL.